228 The Bahrain Government has tried hard to encourage the diving
656 industry, by the remittance of the registration fees on diving boats,
178 by customs concessions and by other means, but it is certain that the industry will never return to its palmy days when so many of the people of Bahrain were connected with it or depended on it.

228 Visitors to the pearl banks are advised to set out at about midnight
431 from Bahrain. Launches can be hired in Manama or Muharraq and
609 if they leave at twelve midnight, the banks will be reached at two or three in the morning. The remainder of the night can be spent lying at anchor and in the early morning the opening of the shells can be watched, followed by the preparations for the day's work and the actual diving. The divers have no objection to being photographed at their work and welcome foreigners on board their boats, they do, however, appreciate a present from visitors and it is a good plan to take out some fresh dates or other fruit, for the boats, particularly at the end of the season, are usually low in fresh provisions and such a gift is very welcome.

CHAPTER VII

LOCAL INDUSTRIES

THE POTTERIES

323 PEARLING is not the only ancient industry in Bahrain, for the presence
● [438] in many parts of the islands of pottery sherds indicates that pottery has been made here for many centuries. Today this industry is restricted to the village of Aali whose inhabitants work in the same way as did their forefathers, scorning modern innovations.

[472] From the hills around Rifaa the clay is brought to Aali ; brown and red clay for the coarser objects and white clay for finer work. The raw clay is beaten and then mixed with water until it is ready for throwing by the younger members of the potter's family, for each pottery is a separate family concern. All the processes which go into the making of pottery take place in small sheds, in each one a potter can be seen at work, his feet in a pit working the wheel which is on a level with his waist. Rapidly he flings lumps of clay on to the spinning wheel and with deft fingers works the shapeless mud into graceful jars, bowls and other utensils. When each piece is completed it is set in the sun to dry before being taken to the oven. Most of the ovens
[172] are built in the prehistoric tumuli south of the village, which have been excavated. A hole is made in the roof of the tomb and another at the side; in the former the objects to be baked are placed and the latter is filled with firewood. When the fires are lit the tombs become miniature volcanoes with thick smoke belching from their peaks, slowly the fires die down, the smoke clears and the baked pottery is removed and the ovens are prepared for the next baking.

The products of Aali are simple in the extreme, pots, bowls, water jars and dishes, utensils which have always been used by the people of Bahrain and which still find a ready market though the increased prosperity of the people enables them to buy cheap imported goods. It is not necessary to go to Aali itself to see the products of the potteries for at the Suq al-Araba in Manama on Wednesday mornings and at the Suq al-Khamis market on Thursday mornings the people of Aali bring their goods for sale.

At Aali the photographer will find many subjects for his camera. The potters in their workshops with the sun shining on the damp yellow clay, the symmetrical stacks of jars drying in the sun, the small boys in bright clothes running up and down the steep sides of the tumuli with objects to be baked and finally the removal of the finished articles, all these scenes provide fascinating pictures.

NURA (LIME)

Aali, as well as being the centre of the Bahrain pottery industry, is the principal place where lime is produced. Stone for the purpose is hewn from the ground in many parts of Bahrain, especially near Rifaa, and is taken in lorries or in donkey carts to Aali. Here the blocks of limestone are arranged on layers of wood, usually date palm trunks, and the wood is then fired. Men with large wooden flails stand round the piles of lime-stone and beat it into powder, chanting as they work and timing the singing to the down strokes of the threshers. When the lime becomes fine powder it is sieved and then placed in sacks. The produce of Aali commands a ready sale, for all the white-wash used in Bahrain is made there or in the neighbourhood and with the present building activities the people of the country have their work cut out to supply the local demand.

There is also in Bahrain a lime factory, owned by a member of the Ruling Family, where lime is produced by modern methods.

FISHING

Fish and fish oil are used for many purposes in Bahrain. The former is one of the staple items of food among the poorer classes, it is used for manure in gardens and for feeding cows and donkeys. Fish oil is used for oiling wooden boats to make them seaworthy. The fact that Bahrain cows are fed on fish, together with dates, date stones, lucerne and bran, leads people to expect that the local milk will taste unusual. This is not true despite the reports of journalists, who hear about the fishy diet without tasting the milk and describe its flavour as unpleasant. Milk from Bahrain cows, if they receive a balanced diet, is unusually good and has a higher average fat content than the milk of ordinary English cows. The use of fish oil on the boats along the shore has little to commend itself to visitors, the smell is extremely disagreeable and drives the people who live in houses near the sea to shut all their windows when the boats are being treated.

316 339 is quarried, lorry loads of wood are brought out, and, as in the manufacture of lime, layers of gypsum are interspersed with layers of wood and the pile fired. The slabs of gypsum are then removed and beaten into a fine powder which, when mixed with water, acts like cement. It has the advantage of being quick setting and is still used by those who cannot afford to buy imported cement.

WEAVING

288 438 291 [697] Weaving is carried on in some of the villages of Bahrain, in Abu Saiba, south of the Budaiya Road and elsewhere. "Awzars," simple garments worn by the villagers around their waists in the summer, are woven from imported cotton, while in many coastal villages the sailors spend the winters weaving sail-cloth. The prisoners on Jidda Island are also employed in weaving, on imported Irish looms, but their activities can hardly be classed as a local industry.

CHAPTER VIII

THE ANTIQUITIES OF BAHRAIN

THE WORLD'S LARGEST GRAVEYARD

172 764 THE tumuli of Bahrain have never been counted, but their number has been estimated at 50,000. In these tumuli Bahrain possesses one of the unsolved mysteries of archaeology, for despite the numerous expeditions that have been made to discover their origin, this is still in dispute.

There are three groups of tumuli in Bahrain. The largest group is that which lies on the plain between Aali and the Rifaas. The second group is to the far north of Bahrain, on each side of the Manama-Budaiya Road between Jidhafs and Diraz. The third group, consisting of a few dozen graves, is in the clearing to the north of the Suq al-Khamis Mosque.

The first group of tombs is daily passed by hundreds of people travelling between Manama and Awali, but the best examples of tumuli in this group are not along the main road but are near the village of Aali. These mounds are the largest in Bahrain and while some of them are used by the villagers for baking their pottery, the majority are just as they were left after their opening by various archaeologists. Most of these tombs face south-west and P. B. Cornwall[1] has suggested that the reason for this is that the builders of the mounds worshipped the Evening Star, Venus, which at sunset lies to the south-west. The majority of the tumuli have two storeys and, in the chamber tombs, there are niches cut into the sides of the passages. The sides and roofs of the graves themselves are of local stone and were originally covered with a layer of gypsum. Some of the tumuli are surrounded by low walls of mud and gravel. Finds in these tumuli have included the bones of men and animals, ivory statues, pieces of circular boxes, golden ornaments and earthenware vessels decorated with black stripes.

There is little agreement among the experts as to the origin and dating of these burials and each has drawn his own deductions from the

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643 agreement similar to that accepted by the Sultan of Oman. By this
648 treaty he undertakes, in return for a subsidy, to alienate no part of his territory except to the British, to conform to British policy, and to accept no help, pecuniary or other, from any foreign power. A British Political Agent, under the Resident at Bushire, is stationed at Manāmah.

The present ruler, Sheikh 'Īsa ibn 'Ali el-Khalīfah, now an old man, owed his accession in 1867 to our influence, and has been supported by us against other claimants of his family, notably Khalīfah ibn Hamed ibn Mohammed el-Khalīfah, who has intrigued with the Porte. Although Sheikh 'Īsa is not without natural sagacity, he has proved to be lacking in the force of character and practical ability which distinguished his contemporary, Sheikh Mubārak of Koweit. In addition, he has sometimes shown himself sensitive of control, even to the point of obstructing reforms, encouraged in such courses, perhaps, by a certain impatience of foreign influence prevalent in Bahrein; he has thus on at least one occasion incurred the censure of the Indian Government. But in spite of these shortcomings, he has avoided serious complications; in the difficult times which began with the crisis in the pearl industry in 1913, and have been aggravated by the war, he has shown ability and reasonable goodwill. His heir, Sheikh Hāmid, is described as a man holding moderate views.

Islands

1. *Bahrein*

361 The general nature of Bahrein Island has been described in a
438 previous section (p. 311). In the present place the chief centres of population may be noticed. The island has nearly 100 villages and hamlets, of which the following are the most important:

Hālah Bin Anas, a short distance E. of Manāmah, with 85 huts of Sunnis, who are pearl-divers and fishermen.

'Askar, on the E. coast, 4¼ miles ENE. of Jebel Dukhān. 75 stone houses and reed-huts of Āl Bu 'Ainein, pearl-divers, owning about 20 boats; 1,500 date-palms; a little live stock.

Bilād el-Qadīm, about 1½ mile SW. of Manāmah fort; about 350 mud and reed huts. The inhabitants are *Bahārinah*, who gain a livelihood as pearl-merchants, cultivators, or tailors; many ruined stone houses. It has a suburb to the SW. called *Bilād er-Rāfi'*, and on the NW. side the *Sūq el-Khamīs*, where a large market is held on Thursdays. About ½ mile to the W. are the ruins of the Madrasat Abu Zeidān, the minarets of which, in combination with Jebel

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Dukhān, form a landmark for vessels entering Manāmah harbour. In the ruined part of the village is the fine spring of *Abu Zeidān*, over which a modern Shiah mosque has been erected; the water fills a tank much resorted to for bathing in hot weather. There are nearly 12,000 date-trees, with other fruit trees, and a little live stock.

Būri, 7 miles SW. of Manāmah at the SW. extremity of the great date-belt. A few stone houses and 150 huts of *Bahārinah* date-growers. About 10,500 date-palms; a little live stock. *Dirāz*, 1 mile ENE. of Budayya' town (p. 322) and ¾ mile from the sea. Several well-built houses, and 150 huts of *Bahārinah* cultivators, weavers, and pearl-divers; a considerable quantity of cloth for abbas woven; 1,500 date-palms; live stock. *Beni Jamrah*, ¾ mile E. of Budayya'; 50 huts of *Bahārinah* weavers; good well; 1,300 date-palms; live stock. *Jau*, on E. coast, 5 miles ESE. of Jebel Dukhān. A few well-built houses and about 400 huts. The people are Sunni pearl-fishers, owning about 30 boats. *Jidd Hafs*, 1¼ miles SE. of the ruined Portuguese fort, *Qal'at el-'Ajāj*, which is 3½ miles W. of Manāmah fort. Large village of 300 houses, occupied by *Bahārinah* date-growers, carpenters, lime-burners, and pearl-merchants. Irrigated gardens with lucerne, vegetables, and fruits. 16,000 date-palms; live stock. The smaller village *'Ain ed-Dār* (50 houses) is practically a suburb.

Jufeir, N. of the cape of the same name; 80 reed huts of Bahārinah cultivators and fishermen. Near the point of the cape is a large stone house belonging to the Wazīr of Bahrein. About 900 date-palms, lucerne fields; live stock; 15 pearl-boats. *Karzakkān*, ¾ mile from the W. coast, 7 miles below Budayya'; 150 huts of *Bahārinah* cultivators and sail-makers; large date-groves; 16,500 trees; donkeys and cattle.

Ma'āmīr, on E. coast, opposite Sitrah Island; 130 houses, including stone buildings; population, *Bahārinah* pearl-fishers, owning more than 20 boats. *Mālikīyah*, near W. coast, 8 miles below Budayya', and close to the landing-place for passengers from *Hasa* called *'Aqārīyah*; 100 huts of *Bahārinah* cultivators; about 6,000 date-palms; some 20 donkeys. Near the village, a stone-built Shiah shrine. *Rifā' esh-Sharqi*, large village with watch-towers on a bare site 7 miles S. of Manāmah, at the NE. corner of the central depression, which it overlooks. There are two large masonry houses, one occupied by Sheikh Khālid ibn 'Ali, brother of the Sheikh of Bahrein, who governs the place, the other by another member of the ruling family. The village itself consists of 300 mud houses occupied by Maliki Sunnis, whose living is made by selling in Manāmah the excellent drinking-water from the wells of *Haneini* in

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361 the depression below (17 fathoms or more); another good well,
438 *'Ain Khālid*, is in the centre of the village. The people own 85 donkeys and 16 horses. This village, like the next following, serves as a sanitorium for the island.

Rifā' el-Gharbi, in a similar position to the above, from which it is distant 1¼ miles WNW. One large masonry house is occupied by a member of the ruling family, though the village is under the jurisdiction of Sheikh Khālid; there are 40 reed huts, the inhabitants of which are Maliki Sunnis, chiefly of the 'Utūb tribe. The people gain a livelihood by selling Manāmah drinking-water from the well *Umm Ghuweifah* on the plateau near the village, carrying it thither on camels. No cultivation; some live stock. The village, like the preceding, is a sanitorium for the island. *Sanābis*, on the N. coast; a long village with a mosque, inhabited by 1,500 *Bahārinah*, engaged in boat-building, fishing, and the pearl trade; 30 pearl boats; 900 date-palms; some live stock. *Zallāq*, on the W. coast, 11 miles below Budayya'; 3 stone and 200 mud houses, inhabited by Dawāsir engaged in the pearl fisheries. There is a ruined fort. The people own 30 boats; live stock includes 30 donkeys and cattle.

The following are the principal towns:—

504 1. **Manāmah,** the commercial capital, is an open town situated on the coast at the NE. corner of the island; the anchorage is good, but steamers of 19 feet draught cannot come nearer than the outer anchorage 4 miles to the NW. of the town; smaller vessels can run up to an inner anchorage 2 miles off shore in the same direction. The bottom shelves so gradually that at low water even boats cannot get within ¼ mile of the beach, but must discharge passengers and cargo by means of donkeys; the harbour has many nets and fish-
361 weirs always set. Manāmah with its suburbs extends 1½ miles along
438 the sea-front, and has a depth inland of about ½ mile. The general appearance of the town is dingy and unprepossessing; the beach quarter is occupied by fishermen's huts, and the shore is formed of a dirty shingle. The larger buildings are of small stones cemented by mud or inferior mortar, which is apt to fall out, suggesting neglect and decay; while the ground floors are used as go-downs and business offices. The bazaar (450 shops), in the centre of which is the market-place, has been described as 'a filthy labyrinth of narrow lanes lined by shops and generally covered over with mats to keep out the sun'. In the outskirts dwellings are usually matting huts standing in courtyards enclosed by hurdles of upright date-fronds. The best buildings are the British Political Agency towards the NE. end; the American Mission and Hospital; Qal'at ed-Dīwān

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or Manāmah fort, the Sheikh's summer residence, a large bastioned structure, standing in the open plain between the town and the date gardens behind it; a well-built house rather farther inland, belonging to Sheikh Hāmid, the heir apparent, and a further large house, near the SW. end, formerly occupied by another member of the ruling family. With the exception of the new Jāmi' mosque, places of worship are mostly unpretentious. The former villages of *Ras Rummān* (or *Farīq Hamidah*) and *Na'īm Kebīrah* now form suburbs; the first covers a point of the same name beyond the British Agency, and is inhabited by pearl-divers, fishermen, and ferrymen serving the strait to Muharraq; the second, at the west end, is inhabited by poor *Bahārinah* occupied in boat-building and pearl-fishing.

The population of Manāmah and its suburbs is about 25,000, of whom three-fifths are Sunnis and the remainder Shiahs; the former, who show a noticeable infusion of negro blood, include 5,000 *Hūwalah*, about 400 Arabs from Koweit, Hasa, and Nejd, 1,000 Arabs of uncertain origin, 500 'Utūb, and more than 2,000 negroes, enslaved and free; the Shiahs are composed of 12,000 *Bahārinah* of Bahrein, 1,250 *Bahārinah* from Hasa and Qatīf, 1,500 Persians, and a few Arabs from Basra. The Arabs from Nejd are mostly Wahabite. The small non-Mohammedan residue of a few hundred souls consists of Hindus, Jews, and Oriental Christians.

Drinking-water is obtained from a well called *'Ain Muqbil*, sunk in the coral rock between the British Agency and the American Mission, and from a cistern called *Qufūl*, about a mile W. of the fort, filled by the surplus water of several springs. These are used by the poorer inhabitants; the first is brackish, the second contaminated by ablution of men and animals. Other inhabitants buy their drinking-water from camel-men of Rifā' esh-Sharqi and Rifā' el-Gharbi, who bring it for sale from the wells in their villages (see above). For washing purposes water can be reached anywhere at about 6 feet, and almost every house has its well. For the trade of the port see p. 314 f. The town and suburbs possess about 150 pearling and other boats. The date-groves beyond the fort begin the large belt already mentioned. The number of trees belonging to the town proper is limited to about 500; a rather larger number belong to the suburb of Na'īm el-Kebīrah. There is a British Indian post office.

Should Manāmah be used as a temporary base for troops, the best site for a camp would be on the east side of the plain behind the town, where perhaps a division could be accommodated. Disembarkation can be carried out in three places, at the beach of

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361 Qasabīyah clear of the town, at the customs pier, and at the jetty
438 of the British Agency.

2. **Budeyya'**, near the NW. corner of Bahrein Island, stretches for about a mile along the sea with a depth of about 300 yards. It has three quarters with about 8,000 inhabitants, *Farīq el-'Amāmarah*, *Farīq ed-Dām*, and *Farīq el-Budayya'*, containing a considerable number of stone houses, five or six buildings of solid masonry with upper storeys, and a tower. The people are all Sunnis, the most numerous Arab communities belonging to the Dawāsir (800 houses) and 'Amāmarah (100 houses). There are a large number of negro slaves (450 houses) and free negroes (200 houses), with about 50 households of *Hūwalah*. Most of the people are engaged in the pearl-fisheries, and more than 100 boats are owned. The Dawāsir, whose Sheikh administers the town without interference from the Sheikh of Bahrein, chiefly occupy the Budayya' and Dām quarters, obtaining their water-supply from wells in the date-plantations of *Dirāz* and *Beni Jamrah* villages; the well of the 'Amāmarah quarter is a little to the E. of the houses.

2. *Muharraq*

101 This island lies immediately NE. of Bahrein, from which it is
131 separated by a narrow strait a mile and a half broad; it is of horse-shoe shape, with the open side to the S.; the maximum diameter is about 4 miles. The island is really a low sandbank surrounded by flat coral reefs which almost triple its surface at low tide; from this projects on the NW. a rocky spit called *Ras el-Khaseifah*, extending seaward for nearly 4 miles and constituting the chief danger to ships entering Manāmah harbour. Several marine
361 springs rise near the coasts of the island. There are some 15
438 villages or hamlets in addition to Muharraq town, the more important of which are: *'Arād*, on a promontory on the S. coast; 100 huts of *Bahārinah* date-growers, fishermen, and pearl-divers. There is a rectangular ruined fort, with sides about 90 ft. long, at the E. point of 'Arād Bay. Plantations with about 12,000 date-palms. *Buseitīn*, on the W. coast, 1 mile N. of Muharraq town; 400 houses, some of stone, but most of date-mats. The people are Sunnis, chiefly of the Madhāhakah tribe, owning about 50 boats, mostly used for pearl-fishing. Date-palms number about 1,000; carrots and lucerne are cultivated beneath the trees. Two wells in the date-grove, with brackish water. *Deir*, on NW. coast, 2 miles N. by E. of Muharraq town; 300 houses of mud or date-mats; 3 mosques. Inhabitants are *Bahārinah* engaged in the

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pearl-fisheries, and owning more than 20 boats. Date-groves with about 1,700 trees, among which are several large wells (water at 15 ft.) serving to irrigate the groves, and fields of lucerne. *Hālat Abu Māhur*, on a small island some hundred yards S. of Muharraq town; and connected with the larger island at low tide; 500 houses and huts inhabited by Sunnis, chiefly Āl Bin Maqla, with a number of negroes, enslaved and free. A number of boats are constantly engaged in taking to Muharraq water from the submarine well 600 yards E. of the fort of Abu Māhur at the S. end of the island, now used by the Sheikh as a stable. *Qalāli*, on the NE. coast: 150 mud and reed huts with two good masonry houses. The inhabitants are Sunnis, chiefly of the Manāna'ah tribe, engaged in pearl-dealing or diving and sea-fishing. About 60 boats; no cultivation.

The principal towns are the following:—

1. **Muharraq**, the residence of the Sheikh for eight months in the year, lies on the W. side of Muharraq Island, on the strait dividing it from Bahrein, and about 2 miles from Manāmah. The fort of *Abu Māhur*, which has now no military value, stands on a small island 800 yards S. of the town, near the celebrated submarine spring of the same name which supplies the town with most of its drinking-water. At high water Muharraq is surrounded by the sea on the E., S., and W. sides, a great sanitary advantage, as the sea daily removes the rubbish shot within its reach. The population is estimated at about 20,000, half of whom are *Hūwalah*. There are about 3,000 'Utūb, 2,000 Āl Bin 'Ali Arabs, nearly 1,000 Ziyā'inah, 1,000 *Bahārinah*, and 2,500 negroes, free or slaves, with smaller numbers of other tribes and aggregations. Of this population all but the *Bahārinah* and a few Persians are Sunnis. The people are general merchants, shopkeepers, pearl-merchants, pearl-divers, sailors, boatmen, fishermen, small traders and craftsmen, the pearl-divers forming a much larger proportion of the community than at Manāmah. The place possesses about 700 vessels, nearly one-half of which are used as pearl-boats. More than 200 donkeys, 150 head of cattle, and 80 horses are owned in the town.

Muharraq has fifteen quarters, mostly named after the tribes inhabiting them; there is a bazaar of 300 shops, but the town has no date-palms. During the hot weather the greater part of the population migrates across the strait and encamps in the NE. part of Bahrein Island. As the principal residence of the Sheikh, Muharraq is the political, as Manāmah is the commercial, capital of the principality. It is drier and brighter of aspect than the latter city, and architecturally more impressive when viewed from the sea.

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2. **Hadd,** on the SE. promontory. The town contains perhaps 200 well-built stone houses, and possibly as many as 1,500 mud-and-stone or mat dwellings. The population, estimated at about 8,000, consists of Sunnis, chiefly of the Sādah and Beni Yās tribes. Hadd is the greatest pearl-diving centre in the principality, owning about 170 pearl-boats. There is no cultivation. Water is obtained from wells in a date-grove called *Zimmah*, half a mile to the N. Live-stock consists chiefly of more than 100 donkeys.

3. *Sitrah*

This island lies off the E. coast of Bahrein, from which it is separated by a narrow channel. It measures 4½ miles from N. to S., with a maximum breadth of 1½ miles at the N. end, where there are date-groves of exceptional growth, watered from springs and wells; the narrower S. end is a low expanse of sand. Sitrah is a part of the fief held by Khālid ibn 'Ali, brother of the Sheikh, who in summer resides in a bastioned house at *Khārijīyah*. The inhabitants of the N. part are *Bahārinah*, occupying seven villages or hamlets, of which the more important are: *Hālah* or *Hālāt* on the N. coast, a hamlet where passengers land from Manāmah or Muharraq. *Khārijīyah*, near the W. coast, 1 mile from the most northerly point; fort forming the summer residence of Sheikh Khālid; 50 reed huts of pearl-divers, fishermen, and mat-makers; 1,500 date-palms. *Marqūbān*, near the centre; 30 huts of pearl-divers and cultivators; about 5,000 date-palms. *Muhazzah*, on E. coast, near the N. end; 60 reed huts, about 30 boats, over 4,000 date-palms; a good spring feeding a tank. *Quryah*, near the NW. corner; 40 reed huts; gardens belonging to Sheikh Khālid; 7,000 date-palms; about 20 boats. Between Quryah and Hālāt is the fine spring of *'Ain er-Raha*, the water of which is collected in a tank for irrigation. *Sufālah*, on the E. coast, 1½ mile from the N. end; 50 mat huts; date-groves on N. side, with 4,000 trees; about 20 boats. Good water-supply from the spring at *Muhazzah*. *Wādiyān*, ¼ mile ESE. of Khārijīyah; 60 reed huts; 4,000 date-palms; a fine spring used for irrigation.

The only village in the S. part is *Hālat Umm el-Beidh*, inhabited by Sunnis.

There are three rocky islets off Sitrah; two, called *Qassārein*, are 500 yards from the N. side; the third, *Qassār Bin Tarīf*, is 250 yards from the NW. corner. On all three Na'īm Bedouins encamp during the hot weather.

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4. *Nebi Sālih, or Jezīrah*

This island lies in the inlet of Kabb on the E. side of Bahrein Island; it measures only ½ mile in each direction, and is practically one large date-grove, said to contain 16,000 trees. There are two villages inhabited by *Bahārinah* cultivators, pearl-divers, and fishermen; one, *Kāflān*, with 40 houses, the other, *Quryah*, with 35, owning about 10 boats. Two copious springs, *'Ain es-Safāhīyah* and *'Ain el-Khadhra*, supply abundant fresh water. The island is under the jurisdiction of Sheikh Khālid, brother of the Sheikh of Bahrein.

About 200 yards to the N. is a still smaller island, *Jezeyyirah*, covered with date-palms, now belonging to Sheikh Khālid, but formerly to a Shiah mosque of which only the ruins remain.

5. *Umm Na'asān*

This island lies about 2 miles off the W. coast of Bahrein Island, and measures less than 4 miles in length from N. to S. by about 2½ miles in breadth; it is uninhabited. Though low, it contains two peaks of inconsiderable height, and furnishes the best building-cement in Bahrein. There is a freshwater spring near the W. coast. The Dawāsir of Budayya' and Zallāq villages on Bahrein Island send their cattle to Umm Na'asān in the hot weather for grazing.

D. EL-QATAR

Area

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El-Qatar is a peninsula running N. and S. with a maximum length of 80 miles and a breadth, at the base, of 40 miles; it projects from the Arabian coast about midway up the Persian Gulf, and forms the eastern side of the Gulf of Bahrein. Its S., or land boundary, is not clearly defined. Beginning at the foot of the bay called Dōhat es-Salwa on the SW., it runs SE. to the wells of Sakak, continuing thence to the E. coast, either ENE., to the N. end of the Naqiyān sand-hills, which run parallel with the sea for 30 miles from a point 10 miles S. of Wakrah, or E. by S., to the S. end of the same hills, and the shore at the N. end of the Khōr el-'Odeid. The Sheikhs of El-Qatar claim territory even to the S. of this; but the British Government has recognized Khōr el-'Odeid as belonging to the Trucial Sheikh of Abu Dhabi (see p. 337).

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